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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
BULLOCK JR, LEWIS ALEXANDER	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2126

DATE MAILED: 11/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/756,579

Applicant(s)

REID, JOHN L.

Examiner

Lewis A. Bullock, Jr.

Art Unit

2127

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over CZAJKOWSKI (U.S. Patent 6,567,974).

As to claim 1, CZAJKOWSKI teaches a method comprising: running at least two applications (applications); and enabling the applications to share a class (application class / system class); and duplicating the member data for the class (see fig. 3-5; col. 10, line 8 – col. 11, line 55; column 12, lines 30-45). CZAJKOWSKI also teaches each application (programs / applications) executes in any type of memory (col. 7, lines 10-13); and providing access (via identity / address of access methods class) to each application to enable each application to access its member data (via each application having access to the instantiated access methods class) (col. 12, lines 35 – col. 13, line 15). Official Notice is taken in that it is well known in the art that shared memory is a type of memory and therefore would be obvious in view of CZAJKOWSKI in order to allow the applications to execute in a shared memory and therein duplicate member data for a class so that the member data is stored in shared memory and accessed by the applications based upon an identifier to the member data for the respective application. It is also well known in the art that when an client instantiates another

class, i.e. access methods class, a reference to that object is returned to the requesting object and therefore the applications would receive a reference to the methods class when it is instantiated for accessing the application's respective member data.

As to claim 2, CZAJOWSKI teaches enabling each application on a computer system to use memory (col. 6, lines 56 – col. 8, line 8) in sharing a class (abstract). CZAJOWSKI also teaches that the memory is representative of various types of possible memory media (col. 7, lines 2-11). However, CZAJOWSKI does not mention that the memory is shared memory.

Official Notice is taken in that shared memory is well known in the art and would be obvious in view of CZAJOWSKI to share a class in shared memory.

As to claim 3, CZAJOWSKI teaches defining an address space (via separate copies of the static field) specific to each application (col. 12, lines 20-45).

As to claim 4, CZAJKOWSKI teaches duplicating process specific data (static field / static field class) for each application (applications) (col. 12, lines 20-45).

As to claim 5, CZAJKOWSKI teaches automatically (during run-time) duplicating process specific data (static field / static field class) in the address space specific to each application (separate copy of the field for each application) (col. 12, lines 12-45; col. 13, lines 1-6; col. 18, lines 9-12).

As to claim 6, CZAJKOWSKI teaches defining a share class (access methods class / modified original class) and using the share class to execute an instance of a class to share (col. 12, line 20 – col. 13, line 15).

As to claim 7, CZAJKOWSKI teaches invoking a sharable interface of the class (operable functionality of the access methods class) to obtain a handle (identity) (via access methods class being operable to extract the application identity from the current thread through the modified original class) (col. 13, lines 1-15).

As to claims 8, CZAJKOWSKI teaches specifying the handle (identity) to resolve the context (via the access methods class being operable to extract the application identity from the current thread through the modified original class to invoke the correct copy of the static field class) (col. 13, lines 1-15). However, CZAJKOWSKI does not teach that the handle is specified in a method call.

Official Notice is taken in that it is well known in the art that objects and classes communicate with one another through method calls. Therefore, it would be obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the teachings of CZAJKOWSKI with the well known teaching of object oriented communication through method calls in order to retrieve the identity (handle) from a thread object through a method call in order for the objects (thread object / access methods class / modified original class) to communicate with one another.

As to claims 9-16, reference is made to an article that corresponds to the method of claims 1-8 and is therefore met by the rejection of claims 1-8 above.

As to claims 17-20, reference is made to a system that corresponds to the method of claims 1-4 and is therefore met by the rejection of claims 1-4 above.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 9/21/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's argument is that the cited reference does not teach that the member data is not stored in shared memory. The examiner disagrees. The cited reference teaches that the applications execute in any type of memory. Shared memory is a well known form of memory and therefore, it would be obvious to one skilled in the art that the applications, as well as, the member data are stored in shared memory. Secondly, Applicant argues that the applications do not have a handle to the member data. The examiner disagrees. It is well known in the art that a client requesting access to a class or object must instantiate the class and return a handle to the client, so that the client can access the object. The cited prior art of "Understanding ActiveX and OLE" teaches this on page 58 and 62, in particular fig. 2-5 and 2-6. Therefore, since the access methods class provides access to each applications member data based on the identity of the application, each application must have a

Art Unit: 2127

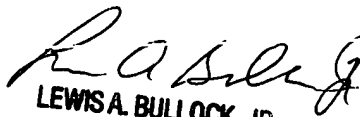
pointer to the instantiated access methods class in order to invoke their respective member data.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3759. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

October 27, 2004